

### Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, further examination is respectfully requested.

Previously allowed independent claims 1, 7 and 9 have been amended so as to remove the phrase "an outward radial direction of" therefrom. However, it is submitted that these claims are still patentable over the prior art of record.

Further, new claims 12-23 have been added. It is submitted that new independent claim 19 is patentable over the prior art of record for reasons similar to those regarding independent claims 1, 7 and 9.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi ISHIDA et al.

By David M. Ovedovitz/  
2008.09.02 15:14:00 -04'00'

David M. Ovedovitz  
Registration No. 45,336  
Attorney for Applicants

DMO/jmj  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
September 2, 2008